



EMD NEWSLETTER



December 2025

Issue 41

A holiday message from EMD General Manager Carol Parks:

As 2025 comes to a close, I want to thank our residents, partners, and the amazing EMD team for their dedication and commitment throughout the year. It's been a busy year with multiple incidents that have challenged our community, yet time and again we've risen to the occasion together.

This year, we've made meaningful strides in strengthening our community's preparedness:

- Residents participated in workshops and drills that improved emergency readiness.
- Families and neighbors built emergency kits and developed actionable plans.
- Our EMD team responded swiftly to incidents, keeping the City informed and safe.

Looking ahead, we encourage you to give the gift of preparedness. Whether it's helping a loved one plan ahead, assembling an emergency kit, or staying informed about local alerts, your actions make a real difference. Preparedness isn't just about emergencies; it's about peace of mind and protecting the people we care about.

Thank you for your continued engagement and for making our community stronger every day. Wishing you a safe, joyful holiday season and a prepared start to 2026!

HOLIDAY FIRE SAFETY

- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns.
- Consider using battery-operated flameless candles.
- Water your Christmas tree every day.
- Inspect holiday lights each year before you put them up.
- Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires.
- Make sure your tree is at least 3-feet away from heat sources like fireplaces, radiators, space heaters, candles, or heat vents.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.
- Call "311" for City tree disposal information ("211" for County tree disposal information).

[Home Fire Safety Guide](#)



Think about using battery-operated flameless candles.

These candles can look, smell and feel like real candles.



Use holiday lighting safely.

Throw away light strands with frayed or pinched wires. Turn off all your holiday lights before going to bed or leaving your home.

BE WINTER READY

Heat your home safely by:

- Keeping anything that can burn at least 3 feet from all heat sources (fireplaces and portable heaters).
- Plug space heaters directly into an outlet.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Maintain heating equipment and chimneys by having them cleaned and inspected each year.



Prepare for Power Outages:

- Keep freezers and refrigerators closed.
- If you use a generator, ONLY use it outdoors and away from open windows.
- Disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.
- Have alternate plans for refrigerating medicines or using power-dependent medical devices.
- Go to a community location with power if cold is extreme and you can't heat your home.



Prevent Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisoning:

- Install a CO detector.

Access & Functional Needs Safety Tips

Carbon Monoxide Safety Tips

Fire Safety

Winter Ready

HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIPS

Check Your Devices

- Keep software up-to-date.
- Use strong passwords.
- Check device privacy settings.
- Only Shop Through Trusted Sources.
- Make sure sites are reputable and established.
- Do not click on links or download attachments.
- Never provide your passwords or personal financial information.

Use Safe Methods For Purchasing

- Use a credit card as opposed to a debit card.
- Check your statements for fraudulent charges frequently.
- Beware of emails requesting personal information.



**SHOPPING
SECURELY**

Stay safe online this
holiday season with
our secure shopping tips!

ONLINE SHOPPING TIPS

[Shopping Tips Sheet](#)

[Shopping Tips](#)

RYLAN PROGRAM

The City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department's **Ready Your LA Neighborhood** (RYLAN) Program provides free and easy to use tools, guides, and workshops to help you and your family, business, and neighborhood prepare for disaster. Emergency preparation today will help to reduce injuries, protect your property and most importantly, save lives.





Emergency Management Department (EMD)

City of Los Angeles

[Emergency.LACity.gov](https://www.emergency.lacity.gov)

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